Camel Pilot Supreme: The Daring Exploits of Captain Armstrong DFC





Camel Pilot Supreme: Captain D V Armstrong DFC

by Annette Carson

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.7 out of 5
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Captain Arthur Roy Brown, more affectionately known as "Roy" Armstrong, was a renowned British fighter pilot during World War I who earned the prestigious title of "Camel Pilot Supreme." Armstrong was celebrated for his exceptional skill and bravery in aerial combat, achieving an impressive 15 confirmed victories while flying the iconic Sopwith Camel fighter plane.

Early Life and Military Career

Armstrong was born in 1892 in England. Before the outbreak of World War I, he worked as a clerk in a solicitor's office. However, his passion for flying led him to join the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) in 1915.

Armstrong quickly rose through the ranks, demonstrating his exceptional piloting abilities and keen eyesight. By 1917, he had been assigned to No. 46 Squadron RFC, which was equipped with Sopwith Camels.

The Sopwith Camel and Armstrong's Success

The Sopwith Camel was a formidable fighter plane known for its agility and maneuverability. Its twin Vickers machine guns gave it a fearsome firepower. Armstrong quickly mastered the Camel's capabilities and became one of the most successful pilots in the RFC.

Armstrong's success was attributed to his combination of skill, daring, and tactical awareness. He was renowned for his ability to execute tight turns

and outmaneuver enemy aircraft. His keen eyesight also enabled him to spot enemy planes from afar and engage them before they could attack.

Notable Aerial Victories

Armstrong's most notable aerial victories occurred during the Battle of Cambrai in 1917. In a single day, he shot down four German aircraft, including two Albatros D.Vs and two Pfalz D.IIIs. This remarkable feat earned him the Victoria Cross, the highest military decoration awarded for valor in the British Armed Forces.

Another significant victory came in April 1918, when Armstrong engaged in a tense aerial dogfight with Baron Manfred von Richthofen, the legendary "Red Baron." Although Armstrong failed to shoot down Richthofen, he managed to damage the Red Baron's plane, forcing him to retreat.

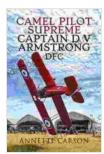
Later Career and Legacy

Armstrong continued to serve with distinction throughout World War I, eventually becoming a flight commander. After the war, he remained in the Royal Air Force (RAF), serving in various capacities until his retirement in 1939.

Armstrong's legacy as a fighter pilot remains unmatched. He is celebrated as one of the most skilled and courageous pilots of World War I. His exceptional record and daring exploits have earned him a permanent place in aviation history.

Captain Arthur Roy Brown, known as "Roy" Armstrong, lived up to the title of "Camel Pilot Supreme." His exceptional skill, bravery, and tactical prowess made him one of the most successful fighter pilots of World War I.

Armstrong's legacy continues to inspire generations of aviators and serves as a testament to the indomitable spirit of the human being in the face of adversity.



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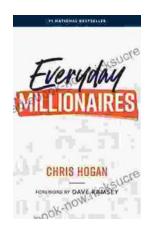
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